

EARTHQUAKES & FLOODS

Wisdoms & Reasons Behind the State of the Ummah

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



We just learned about the floods that occurred in Libya and I was asked to give a comment about that. I start off by asking Allāh سبحانه وتعالى to Help and Protect and Have mercy on the Muslims in Libya — and prior to that, several days ago, I released a statement pertaining to the earthquake in Al-Maghrib. May Allāh سبحانه وتعالى ease their affairs as well. Earthquakes, hurricanes, and floods are signs from Allāh سبحانه وتعالى. They're soldiers of Allāh سبحانه وتعالى. They can be a punishment from Allāh سبحانه وتعالى and they can be a mercy from Allāh سبحانه وتعالى. A mercy for the believers, to hasten their punishment in this Dunyā rather than that they be given that punishment in the Āakhirah, and to higher their ranks, because Allāh سبحانه وتعالى wants them closer to Him and to choose some as martyrs Inshā'Allāh.

The floods and hurricanes move by the Command and Order of Allāh سبحانه وتعالى. Only Allāh سبحانه وتعالى Provides and Supplies them with their power and only He, جل في عله, can stop them. Therefore, our hope in this, and in everything in life, must be with Allāh سبحانه وتعالى alone. The superpowers, with all their technology and might, sit back helplessly looking at earthquakes and hurricanes and floods just as the people of 'Ād were helpless in the eight days of the bitter, ferocious winds that destroyed them, and just like the floods and water took Qawm Lūt and destroyed Fir'awn and his mighty army. The lesson is very simple:

وَإِن يَمْسِكَ اللَّهُ بِضُرٍّ فَلَا كَاشِفَ لَهُ إِلَّا هُوَ

And if Allāh touches you with harm, none can undo it except Him.

If Allāh سبحانه وتعالى touches you with harm, no one can remove that harm but Allāh سبحانه وتعالى.

It's time to remind each other to turn to the only one who can say, كُنْ — Be — and He will Turn those floods and hurricanes into a means of mercy and

blessings. Who else has the power to do that but Allāh سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى؟ Our lands in Bilād Al-Maghrib Al-‘Arabi have fallen between hurricanes and floods and earthquakes in the past few days alone. Trials like these are forgiveness of sins for the believers. With true patience, there's an additional reward. The foremost in deeds top that with Istighfār, so that the gates of ease and mercy can descend from Allāh سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى. The Messenger ﷺ taught us that we're one body. And Allāh سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى said,

إِنَّ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ إِخْرَاجٌ

The believers are but one brotherhood.

Only those with hard hearts are not moved and saddened by the scenes that we see in Bilād Al-Maghrib. However, with the same intensity that we agonize over our brothers and sisters suffering in Libya today and in Al-Maghrib yesterday, we remind ourselves and everyone to repent and to turn to Allāh سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى.

وَمَا نُرِسِّلُ بِالآيَتِ إِلَّا تَنْهِيَّنَا

We only send the signs as a warning.

We only send the signs as a warning and to make them afraid. When earthquakes and the like occurred, some of the Salaf used to say it's time to repent. When the earthquake occurred during ‘Umar Ibn Al-Khattāb's رضي الله عنه time, he got up to lecture and warn them. They were better than us. We didn't hear anyone say, “*This is not the proper timing for this ‘Umar* رضي الله عنه” Rather, this is the exact, most proper, most precise timing for us to say — while our hearts weep over every single Muslim suffering — it's the proper, precise timing to say that the lands need to be purified from all sorts of filth so Allāh سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى

can ease that suffering on our brothers and sisters who we dearly love and care about. Do you think when Allāh سبحانه وتعالى gives respite to those spreading Kufr and Fawāhish He forgot about them? Do you think Allāh سبحانه وتعالى forgot about those who filled their prisons with 'Ibādullāh Al-Muwahhidīn or fought them in the battlefields and joined the Kuffār against them?

وَلَا تَحْسِنَ اللَّهَ غَيْرًا عَمَّا يَعْمَلُ الظَّالِمُونَ

Do not think (O Prophet) that Allāh is unaware of what the wrongdoers do.

Allāh gives respite to Kuffār, to sinners, to oppressors — but it doesn't last forever. The Messenger ﷺ said,

إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَيُمْلِي لِلظَّالِمِ حَتَّىٰ إِذَا أَخْذَهُ لَمْ يُفْلِتْهُ

Allāh gives respite to the oppressor, but when He takes him over, He never releases him.

And that's like the verse:

وَكَذَلِكَ أَخْذُ رَبِّكَ إِذَا أَخْذَ الْقُرَىٰ وَهِيَ ظَالِمَةٌ إِنَّ أَخْذَهُ أَلِيمٌ شَدِيدٌ

And thus is the seizure of your Lord when He seizes the cities while they are committing wrong. Indeed, His seizure is painful and severe.

Polluting this earth by ruling by other than the Sharī'ah, rejecting the Sharī'ah of Allāh سبحانه وتعالى, neglecting the Sharī'ah of Allāh سبحانه وتعالى, Rukū' and Sujūd to filthy faces that are dripping with the blood of 'Ibādullāh Al-Muwahhidīn and full

of Walā' to the Kafara and Mushrikīn! Normalizing with the Zionists — what we call, the proper term for it is Wala' to the Zionists and the other enemies of Allāh سبحانه وتعالى! Uniting against the Muwahhidīn who carry the pure banner of Tawheed! Widespread Fawāhish, widespread Ribā, widespread Zinā, the act of Qawm Lūt — enormous Munkarāt widespread in our societies! It's gotten to where the sins have settled in society, and in the bottom of the hearts as well. Kufr and sins are normalized in many aspects to the point that the people no longer see evil as evil. Hearts are no longer moved and feelings are no longer hurt at seeing violations against the Laws and Rules of Allāh سبحانه وتعالى. When that happens and when people no longer see Kufr as Kufr and they don't see the Munkarāt as Munkarāt, when the people see those doing Inkār of the Munkar as interfering with people's personal lives, when the righteous Muwahhidīn who want Allāh's rule to dominate the earth are outcast strangers and rejected by society or in prisons, then you can expect what Zaynab Bint Jahsh رضي الله عنها asked the Messenger ﷺ about — and this will answer the question to everyone who's asking, "Why everyone though?" The answer is right there. Zaynab Bint Jahsh رضي الله عنها asked the Messenger ﷺ:

أَنْهَلُكُ وَفِينَا الصَّالِحُونَ؟ قَالَ: نَعَمْ، إِذَا كَثُرَ الْخُبُثُ

Shall we be destroyed even though there are pious persons among us?" He said, "Yes, when the evil person will increase.

Zaynab رضي الله عنها asked, will Allāh destroy us? Us, who's us? The righteous believers. Will Allāh destroy us despite the fact that there are pious people amongst us? The Messenger ﷺ said, "Yes, if the evil predominates." كثرة الخبيث means evil predominates.

There's no force on this earth that can prevent an earthquake or flood or a hurricane when Allāh سبحانه وتعالى destines it. The preventive measure is in turning to Allāh سبحانه وتعالى. The preventive measure is in having Muslihīn, not just Sālihīn.

Sālihīn are righteous people. Muslihīn are righteous people who spread that righteousness. When there's Muslihīn, even if there are not many, there's protection from Allāh سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى.

وَمَا كَانَ رَبُّكَ لِيُهْلِكَ الْقُرَىٰ بِظُلْمٍ وَأَهْلُهَا مُصْلِحُونَ

And your Lord would not have destroyed the cities unjustly while their people were reformers.

Your Lord will never destroy the towns wrongfully when there's people that are Muslihūn. Allāh سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى promised not to punish the people when the Imām of the Muslihīn ﷺ was amongst them.

وَمَا كَانَ اللَّهُ لِيُعَذِّبَهُمْ وَأَنْتَ فِيهِمْ

But Allāh would not punish them while you, [O Muḥammad], are among them

Allāh سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى would never punish them while you, the Messenger, are living amongst them. The other promise in that same verse is what I touched upon earlier of Istighfār and turning to Allāh سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى.

وَمَا كَانَ اللَّهُ مُعَذِّبَهُمْ وَهُمْ يَسْتَغْفِرُونَ

Nor would He ever punish them if they prayed for forgiveness.

And Allāh سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى will not Punish them, which also entails that He will Lift the punishment, so long as they ask for forgiveness.

May Allāh سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى Aid and Protect and Have mercy upon the Muslims in Libya and in Al-Maghrib and this Ummah as a whole. May Allāh سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى Grant them patience and Accept those from amongst them who died as martyrs.